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Labor Market Digest, August 1997

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Center for Workforce Research and Information

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Maine Department of Labor

LABOR MARKET DIGEST

June Data

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August 1997

INSIDE . . .

Cumberland County recorded lowest unemployment rate in the state page 3

Adjusted unemployment fell slightly in June page 4

Nonfarm employment rose seasonally by 13,300 over the month page 6

Average hourly earnings of manufacturing production workers increased by 3.7 percent over the year page 7

A publication of
the

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Labor Market
Information Services

Raynold A. Fongemie
Division Director

Dana A. Evans
Editor

For more information, call

Telephone (207) 287-2271
FAX (207) 287-2947
TDD 1-800-794-1110
E-Mail - lmi.me@state.me.us

Visit our Home Page at
<http://ecuvax.cis.ecu.edu/~mainelmi/mainel.html>

College Enrollment and Work Activity of 1996 High School Graduates

Sixty-five percent of 1996 high school graduates [in the United States] were attending colleges or universities by the fall [of 1996], according to data released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. This rate was an all-time high. From 1992 to 1995, the enrollment rate was about 62 percent.

Recent High School Graduates and Dropouts

Of a total of 2.7 million youth who graduated from high school in 1996, about 1.7 million were attending college in October. Young women were more likely than young men to enter colleges or universities—69.7 percent compared with 60.1 percent. A higher proportion of the white graduates were enrolled in college the following fall (65.8 percent) than were blacks (55.3 percent) and Hispanics (50.7 percent).

Nearly two-thirds of the 1996 high school graduates who were freshmen in college were enrolled in 4-year institutions. About two-fifths of them were combining school with

some labor force activity. In contrast, a much higher proportion (about three-fifths) of the youth enrolled in 2-year colleges were in the labor force.

The labor force participation rate was 78.1 percent among the high school graduates who did not enroll in college in the fall of 1996. Despite improvements in the economy and employment since mid-1992, the unemployment rate for this group was 24.4 percent in October 1996.

Sixty-five percent of 1996 high school graduates were attending colleges or universities....This rate was an all-time high.

Between October of 1995 and October of 1996, roughly one-half million young people dropped out of high school. Of these, only 58.4 percent were in the labor force, and their unemployment rate was 27.6 percent. Among high school dropouts, men were more likely than women to be participating in the labor force (74.0 versus 43.6 percent).

(continued on page 8)

Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by Labor Market Area, Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ¹			EMPLOYED ²			UNEMPLOYED ³			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁴		
	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96
LABOR MARKET AREAS												
Augusta	47,750	47,300	48,330	45,570	45,160	45,840	2,180	2,140	2,500	4.6%	4.5%	5.2%
Bangor MSA	50,000	49,700	49,500	48,200	47,900	47,500	1,800	1,800	2,000	3.5	3.7	4.0
Bath-Brunswick	34,600	33,900	36,160	33,460	32,790	34,770	1,140	1,110	1,380	3.3	3.3	3.8
Belfast	15,190	14,420	14,030	14,520	13,730	13,250	680	690	780	4.5	4.8	5.6
Biddeford	43,150	40,040	42,780	42,020	38,910	41,570	1,130	1,130	1,210	2.6	2.8	2.8
Boothbay Harbor	9,780	8,630	10,000	9,580	8,390	9,730	200	230	270	2.1	2.7	2.7
Bucksport	5,360	5,260	5,380	5,070	5,000	5,060	280	260	320	5.3	5.0	5.9
Calais	5,470	5,370	5,530	4,770	4,630	4,850	710	730	670	12.9	13.7	12.2
Dexter-Pittsfield	14,280	13,940	14,250	13,040	12,700	13,140	1,240	1,240	1,110	8.7	8.9	7.8
Dover-Foxcroft	7,680	7,560	7,690	7,150	6,990	7,140	540	570	560	7.0	7.5	7.2
Ellsworth-Bar Harbor	21,620	19,230	21,080	20,830	18,330	20,240	780	910	840	3.6	4.7	4.0
Farmington	18,340	18,130	17,940	16,830	16,610	16,700	1,510	1,530	1,240	8.2	8.4	6.9
Fort Kent	3,760	3,770	3,830	3,160	3,050	3,240	590	720	590	15.8	19.1	15.5
Greenville	1,220	1,100	1,210	1,140	980	1,120	80	120	90	6.6	10.6	7.0
Houlton	6,970	6,780	6,930	6,440	6,240	6,260	540	540	670	7.7	8.0	9.6
Jonesport-Milbridge	4,230	4,060	4,120	3,930	3,750	3,790	300	310	330	7.1	7.7	8.0
Kittery-York ⁵	20,800	20,780	20,860	20,540	20,510	20,570	260	270	290	1.3	1.3	1.4
Lewiston-Auburn MSA	52,500	51,700	52,300	49,900	49,300	49,100	2,600	2,400	3,200	4.9	4.7	6.1
Lincoln-Howland	6,020	5,930	6,070	5,510	5,330	5,580	510	600	500	8.5	10.1	8.2
Machias-Eastport	6,900	6,710	6,940	6,210	6,110	6,290	690	600	660	9.9	9.0	9.5
Madawaska	4,470	4,250	4,470	4,210	3,980	4,160	260	270	310	5.9	6.3	6.9
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,420	5,370	5,500	5,020	4,900	5,030	400	460	480	7.3	8.6	8.6
Norway-Paris	11,620	11,410	11,600	10,950	10,750	10,860	670	670	750	5.7	5.8	6.4
Outer Bangor	8,050	7,760	8,120	7,540	7,200	7,570	510	550	550	6.3	7.1	6.8
Patten-Island Falls	2,170	2,150	2,070	1,900	1,850	1,840	270	300	240	12.5	13.8	11.5
Portland MSA	133,300	133,200	133,600	129,900	130,000	129,600	3,300	3,200	4,000	2.5	2.4	3.0
Presque Isle-Caribou	20,740	20,010	20,330	19,030	18,270	18,450	1,710	1,740	1,880	8.2	8.7	9.2
Rockland	26,430	25,030	26,390	25,620	24,290	25,590	810	740	800	3.1	3.0	3.0
Rumford	10,250	10,130	10,050	9,420	9,340	9,160	830	790	880	8.1	7.8	8.8
Sanford	23,230	22,740	23,200	22,120	21,690	21,910	1,100	1,050	1,290	4.8	4.6	5.6
Sebago Lakes Region	13,870	13,190	14,290	13,410	12,740	13,750	460	460	540	3.3	3.5	3.8
Skowhegan	16,960	16,820	17,300	15,690	15,440	15,820	1,280	1,380	1,490	7.5	8.2	8.6
Stonington	5,690	5,310	5,460	5,540	5,150	5,280	150	160	180	2.6	3.1	3.3
Van Buren	1,690	1,670	1,690	1,550	1,530	1,550	130	140	140	7.8	8.3	8.2
Waterville	25,350	24,890	25,740	23,910	23,440	24,090	1,440	1,450	1,650	5.7	5.8	6.4
MAINE	684,800	668,200	684,600	653,700	636,900	650,300	31,000	31,300	34,300	4.5	4.7	5.0
UNITED STATES (000)	137,557	135,963	135,083	130,463	129,565	127,706	7,094	6,398	7,377	5.2	4.7	5.5

¹ Civilian labor force, employed, and unemployed estimates are by place of residence. Current month estimates are preliminary; prior month and year-ago estimates are revised. Items may not add due to rounding. All data exclude members of the Armed Forces. MSA stands for Metropolitan Statistical Area.

² Total employment includes nonfarm wage and salary workers, agricultural workers, unpaid family workers, domestics, the self employed, and workers involved in labor disputes.

³ People are classified as unemployed, regardless of their eligibility for unemployment benefits or public assistance, if they meet all of the following: they were not employed during the survey week; they were available for work at that time; and they made specific efforts to find employment some time during the prior four weeks. Persons laid off from their former jobs and awaiting recall and those expecting to report to a job within 30 days need not be looking for work to be counted as unemployed.

⁴ The unemployment rate is calculated by dividing the total number of unemployed by the total civilian labor force, and is expressed as a percent.

⁵ Kittery-York is the five-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Rochester PMSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.

Source: Maine Department of Labor, Labor Market Information Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.



Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed by County, Not Seasonally Adjusted¹

AREA	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96
COUNTY												
Androscoggin	59,000	58,060	58,730	56,000	55,280	55,180	3,000	2,770	3,560	5.1%	4.8%	6.1%
Aroostook	39,310	38,190	38,890	35,850	34,490	35,070	3,470	3,700	3,820	8.8	9.7	9.8
Cumberland	141,340	140,670	142,430	137,730	137,180	138,130	3,610	3,500	4,310	2.6	2.5	3.0
Franklin	15,320	15,200	15,010	14,090	13,900	13,970	1,230	1,300	1,040	8.0	8.6	6.9
Hancock	29,740	27,100	28,990	28,660	25,910	27,850	1,090	1,190	1,140	3.7	4.4	3.9
Kennebec	62,630	61,890	63,530	59,660	58,940	60,040	2,970	2,950	3,490	4.7	4.8	5.5
Knox	23,500	22,270	23,440	22,780	21,590	22,740	730	680	690	3.1	3.0	3.0
Lincoln	18,470	17,010	18,860	17,940	16,520	18,220	520	490	640	2.8	2.9	3.4
Oxford	26,860	26,290	26,790	25,190	24,640	25,000	1,680	1,650	1,800	6.2	6.3	6.7
Penobscot	77,740	76,690	77,340	73,790	72,480	73,140	3,950	4,220	4,200	5.1	5.5	5.4
Piscataquis	9,000	8,760	9,000	8,370	8,060	8,340	630	700	650	7.0	8.0	7.3
Sagadahoc	15,880	15,560	16,640	15,320	15,010	15,920	560	540	720	3.5	3.5	4.3
Somerset	27,470	27,070	27,730	25,350	24,870	25,550	2,120	2,200	2,170	7.7	8.1	7.8
Waldo	20,500	19,700	19,480	19,550	18,730	18,330	960	980	1,140	4.7	4.9	5.9
Washington	17,020	16,490	17,000	15,350	14,860	15,340	1,670	1,630	1,660	9.8	9.9	9.8
York	100,970	97,300	100,780	98,120	94,490	97,500	2,850	2,810	3,280	2.8	2.9	3.3
MAINE	684,800	668,200	684,600	653,700	636,900	650,300	31,000	31,300	34,300	4.5	4.7	5.0
UNITED STATES (000)	137,557	135,963	135,083	130,463	129,565	127,706	7,094	6,398	7,377	5.2	4.7	5.5

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Area Analyst's Corner

Central Area

Alan Cox (207) 624-5190

A study will be conducted to develop a job creation strategy for the Augusta labor market. The study is funded by a federal grant awarded to address economic distress from the closing of Statler Tissue and the downsizing of the state workforce. Tree Free Fiber, the purchaser of the Statler mill in Augusta, received city approval for tax incentives. They will expand operations and have agreed to employ at least 110 workers during the period of the tax incentive.

Western Area

Gerard Dennison (207) 783-5314

Over 1,000 new jobs will be created in the Lewiston-Auburn Area in the next few months. In Auburn, the list of new or expanding firms includes Tambrands, Pioneer Plastics, Shop 'n Save, Rite-Aide, Applebee's, Home Depot, and Pep Boy's. In Lewiston, the list includes People's Heritage Bank, Geiger Brothers, Liberty Mutual, and Traditional Maine Stitching. Morse Brothers will build a new bark mulching plant in Poland.

Southern Area

Eva Smith (207) 822-0216

Seasonal increases in retail trade, services, and construction pushed employment in Cumberland and York counties upward in June. The onset of the summer tourist season drove the increases in retail trade and services. New and ongoing construction projects involving infrastructure, and commercial and residential real estate development have added seasonal jobs as well.

North/East Area

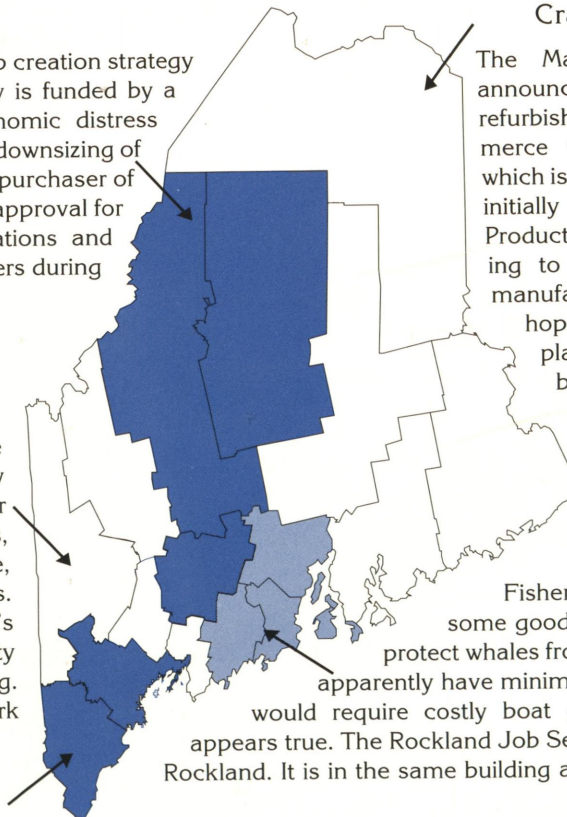
Craig Holland (207) 941-3076

The Maine Army National Guard has announced the opening of a military vehicle refurbishment center at the Loring Commerce Center in Limestone. The facility, which is scheduled to open in September, will initially employ 25 workers. STRUC-LAM Products of Cherryfield is currently negotiating to construct an 80,000 square foot manufacturing facility in Ellsworth, and they hope to eventually employ up to 300. The plant will manufacture glue-laminated beams for construction using new technologies developed at the University of Maine.

Coastal Area

Ken Bridges (207) 287-2271

Fishermen in the mid-coast area received some good news. New federal rules designed to protect whales from entanglement in lines and nets will apparently have minimal impact. It was feared that the rules would require costly boat gear modifications. That no longer appears true. The Rockland Job Service has moved to Tillson Avenue in Rockland. It is in the same building as Coastal Economic Development.



Civilian Labor Force, Employed, and Unemployed in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted¹ (in thousands)

ITEM	1997						1996					
	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul
Civilian Labor Force	669.6	668.7	669.1	672.6	666.8	667.8	674.7	674.0	673.8	673.7	672.0	666.9
Employed	637.8	636.3	637.3	643.3	637.9	638.1	643.1	641.9	640.8	640.0	637.6	635.1
Unemployed	31.8	32.4	31.8	29.4	29.0	29.7	31.6	32.0	33.0	33.8	34.4	34.8
Unemployment Rate (%)	4.7	4.8	4.7	4.4	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.2

¹ See page 2 for footnotes 1 through 4 and source.

Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment in Maine, Seasonally Adjusted¹ (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	1997						1996					
	Jun	May	Apr	Mar	Feb	Jan	Dec	Nov	Oct	Sep	Aug	Jul
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment ²	547.8	546.4	546.3	546.5	545.7	545.2	540.8	541.2	541.0	542.1	539.8	538.8
Construction	24.0	23.6	23.4	23.7	23.5	23.8	23.6	23.7	23.8	23.5	23.3	23.0
Manufacturing	87.7	88.0	87.7	87.9	87.7	87.8	87.4	87.6	87.5	87.7	87.7	87.4
Durable Goods	40.8	41.1	41.2	41.1	41.1	41.0	41.2	41.3	41.3	41.5	41.7	41.6
Nondurable Goods	46.9	46.9	46.5	46.8	46.6	46.8	46.2	46.3	46.2	46.2	46.0	45.8
Transportation and Public Utilities	22.5	22.7	22.6	22.6	22.7	22.8	22.5	22.4	22.3	22.3	22.2	22.3
Wholesale Trade	26.8	26.8	26.6	26.4	26.4	26.2	26.0	25.8	25.9	25.9	25.8	25.7
Retail Trade	111.2	111.4	111.0	111.3	110.9	110.9	108.1	109.7	109.9	111.0	110.2	110.4
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	27.0	27.1	27.1	27.2	27.2	27.4	27.1	26.9	26.8	26.7	26.7	26.7
Services	155.2	154.5	154.7	153.9	154.0	152.9	152.4	151.7	151.2	150.8	150.7	150.3
Government	93.3	92.2	93.1	93.4	93.2	93.3	93.6	93.3	93.5	94.1	93.1	92.9

¹ See footnotes 1 and 2 on page 6. ² Mining employment is not suitable for seasonal adjustment because it has very little seasonal and irregular movement. Thus, the not-seasonally-adjusted series is used as a component of the seasonally adjusted total nonfarm wage and salary employment estimate. Source: See page 2.

June Unemployment Rate was 4.7 Percent

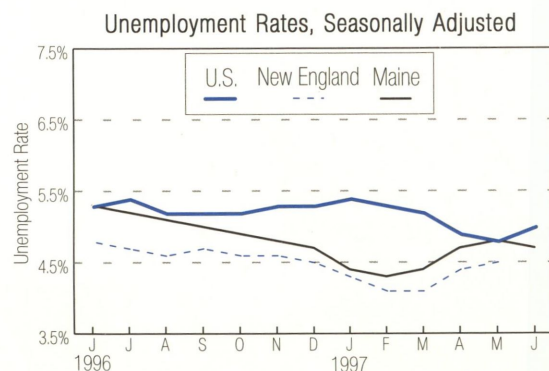
State Labor Commissioner Valerie Landry announced that Maine's seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate edged downward to 4.7 percent in June from 4.8 percent in May.

"Employment rose slightly between May and June while unemployment fell, resulting in a small dip in the seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate," said Commissioner Landry. "The Maine unemployment rate dropped over the past year from 5.3 percent in June 1996 to 4.7 percent in June 1997, representing a decline in the number of unemployed from 35,200 to 31,800."

Seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary employment rose by 1,400 between May and June, with gains in construction, services, and government. Over the past year nonfarm employment increased by 7,200, mainly in services, construction, and wholesale trade.

Other New England states which have reported their seasonally-adjusted rates for June include New Hampshire, 2.9 percent; Vermont, 3.8 percent; Massachusetts, 3.9 percent; and Rhode Island, 5.9 percent. The adjusted national rate for June was 5.0 percent.

Maine's not-seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate was 4.5 percent in June, down from 4.7 percent in May and 5.0 percent in June 1996. The unadjusted national rate was 5.2



percent in June, up from 4.7 percent in May and down from 5.5 percent in June 1996. Not-seasonally-adjusted June unemployment rates for Maine counties ranged from 2.6 percent in Cumberland County to 9.8 percent in Washington County.

Not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs rose seasonally by 13,300 from May to June due to the onset of the summer season. Lodging services, amusement and recreation services, and eating and drinking places all recorded gains in response to increased tourism. Construction activity improved with the warmer weather.

Over the year, not-seasonally-adjusted nonfarm wage and salary jobs increased by 7,300. Services rose by



Selected Regular Unemployment Compensation Program Indicators

Key Data	Jun 1997	May 1997	Jun 1996
Average Duration	INA	15.5	13.8
Average Weekly Benefit Amount*	\$146.35	\$148.66	\$164.10
Exhaustees	INA	1,455	1,320

* For totally unemployed claimants, excluding dependency allowances.

Weekly Initial Claims

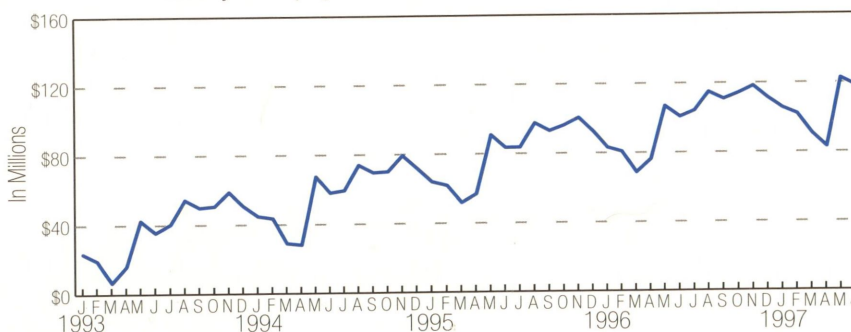
Week	7/5	6/28	6/21	6/14	6/7	5/31	5/24
1997	957	1,090	1,267	1,379	1,152	1,274	1,257
Week	7/6	6/29	6/22	6/15	6/8	6/1	5/25
1996	1,192	1,648	1,990	1,517	1,679	1,527	1,635

Continued Claims Less Partial*

Jun 1997	May 1997	Jun 1996
8,136	10,030	11,416

* For the week including the 12th of the month.

Monthly Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Balance



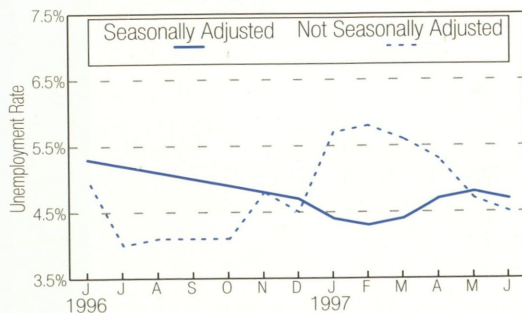
4,900, with most of the gains in business services and social services. Construction increased by 1,100 jobs; wholesale trade added 900; and finance, insurance, and real estate increased by 400. The largest over-the-year decline was recorded in transportation equipment manufacturing, which fell by 600.

U.S. Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U)

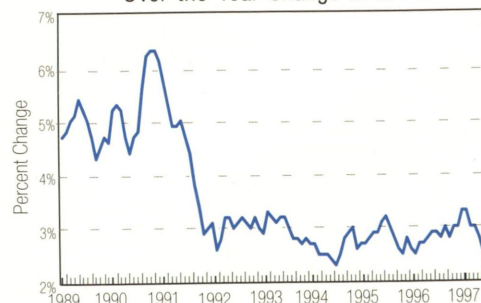
Item	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	Dec 96
(1982-1984 = 100) All Items	160.3	160.1	156.7	158.6

Percent Change from Prior Month	+0.1%
Percent Change from 12 Months Ago	+2.3%
Percent change from Last December	+1.1%

Unemployment Rates for Maine



Over-the-Year Change in CPI-U



Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment, Not Seasonally Adjusted (in thousands)

INDUSTRY	MAINE			PORTLAND MSA			LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA		
	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96
Nonfarm Wage and Salary Employment ¹	561.7	548.4	554.4	139.0	138.2	137.3	41.6	41.0	40.3
Goods Producing	114.1	111.5	113.3	21.4	21.3	20.0	9.9	9.6	9.4
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	25.6	24.2	24.5	6.6	6.4	6.2	1.8	1.7	1.7
Building Construction	6.1	5.9	5.6	1.3	1.2	1.1	*	*	*
Heavy Construction	4.7	4.2	4.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Special Trade Contractors	14.8	14.1	14.4	4.6	4.5	4.4	*	*	*
Manufacturing	88.4	87.2	88.7	14.8	14.9	13.8	8.1	7.9	7.7
Durable Goods	40.8	40.2	41.7	6.9	6.9	6.2	2.3	2.3	2.2
Lumber and Wood Products	10.3	9.7	10.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Primary and Fabricated Metals	3.6	3.6	3.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	4.4	4.4	4.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	*	*	*
Electronic and Other Electrical Equipment	7.2	7.2	7.6	2.6	2.6	2.2	*	*	*
Transportation Equipment	10.7	10.7	11.3	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Durable Goods	4.6	4.6	4.5	2.9	2.9	2.7	*	*	*
Nondurable Goods	47.6	47.0	47.0	7.9	8.0	7.6	5.8	5.6	5.5
Food and Kindred Products	6.5	6.5	6.3	2.1	2.2	2.0	*	*	*
Textile Mill Products	5.1	5.0	4.9	*	*	*	*	*	*
Apparel and Other Textile Products	1.8	1.8	2.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Paper and Allied Products	15.0	14.8	14.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Printing and Publishing	5.7	5.7	5.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	*	*	*
Rubber and Misc. Plastic Products	3.2	3.1	3.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Leather and Leather Products	8.1	8.0	7.9	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.2
Other Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.9	2.9	2.9	4.7	4.6	4.3
Service Producing	447.6	436.9	441.1	117.6	116.9	117.3	31.7	31.4	30.9
Transportation and Public Utilities	22.9	22.6	22.8	6.5	6.4	6.3	1.8	1.8	1.7
Wholesale Trade	27.2	26.9	26.3	9.9	9.8	9.7	2.2	2.2	2.2
Retail Trade	116.2	110.5	116.0	29.7	28.9	29.9	8.2	7.9	8.0
General Merchandise Stores	12.0	11.7	11.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Food Stores	20.7	19.7	20.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Automotive Sales and Services	12.6	12.7	12.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Eating and Drinking Places	39.8	36.4	39.4	8.6	8.2	9.3	*	*	*
Other Retail Trade	31.1	30.0	31.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	27.7	27.2	27.3	12.3	12.3	12.2	2.1	2.1	1.9
Banking	8.4	8.2	8.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Insurance Carriers, Brokers and Agents	11.5	11.5	11.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate	7.8	7.5	7.2	*	*	*	*	*	*
Services	159.0	154.8	154.1	41.4	41.2	41.6	12.6	12.6	12.4
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	12.3	10.0	12.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Business Services	20.3	19.6	18.5	*	*	*	*	*	*
Health Services	51.9	51.6	51.6	*	*	*	*	*	*
Educational Services	11.9	12.4	11.8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Social Services	19.0	19.2	17.0	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other Services	43.6	42.0	43.1	*	*	*	*	*	*
Government	94.6	94.9	94.6	17.8	18.3	17.6	4.8	4.8	4.7
Federal	13.0	13.0	13.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	0.3	0.3	0.3
State	22.9	24.4	22.9	4.0	4.7	3.9	0.6	0.6	0.6
Local ²	58.7	57.5	58.5	11.6	11.4	11.5	3.9	3.9	3.8

¹ Nonfarm wage and salary employment estimates include all full- and part-time wage and salary workers who worked during or received pay for the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Domestic workers in private households, proprietors, the self-employed, and unpaid family workers are excluded. Estimates measure the number of jobs by industry. Current month's estimates are preliminary; prior month and year-ago estimates are revised. These estimates are benchmarked to March 1995. As a measure of reliability, the March 1995 benchmark revision for total nonfarm wage and salary employment was .04 percent lower than the original sample-based estimate.

² Regular teachers are included in summer months whether or not specifically paid in those months.

* Where an employment estimate is not entered, either the data is not available in sufficient detail for publication or is nondisclosable by law.

Source: See page 2.



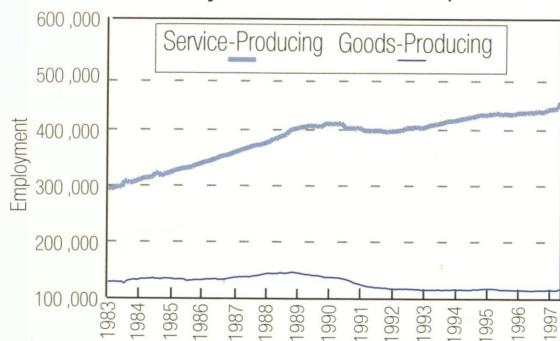
Earnings and Hours of Production Workers in Manufacturing Industries¹ Not Seasonally Adjusted

AREA AND INDUSTRY	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS			ANNUAL AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	Jun 97	May 97	Jun 96	1996	1995	1994
STATEWIDE												
Manufacturing	\$528.43	\$534.23	\$502.21	40.9	41.0	39.7	\$12.92	\$13.03	\$12.65	\$12.71	\$12.42	\$11.88
Durable Goods	505.36	510.66	484.27	40.3	40.4	39.5	12.54	12.64	12.26	12.23	12.22	11.80
Lumber and Wood Products	430.57	437.47	420.84	43.1	43.1	42.0	9.99	10.15	10.02	10.10	9.80	9.46
Primary and Fabricated Metals	455.06	456.92	446.75	40.2	40.4	39.5	11.32	11.31	11.31	11.31	11.07	11.04
Industrial Machinery and Equipment	627.71	640.02	614.32	43.5	44.2	43.6	14.43	14.48	14.09	14.17	13.67	13.88
Electronic and Other Electric Equipment	382.70	385.79	387.00	34.2	34.6	34.4	11.19	11.15	11.25	10.94	10.76	10.72
Transportation Equipment	659.09	662.34	597.50	39.8	39.9	38.4	16.56	16.60	15.56	15.49	16.43	15.17
Other Durable Goods	425.59	413.71	414.73	41.4	40.8	40.9	10.28	10.14	10.14	10.08	9.67	9.34
Nondurable Goods	548.55	554.86	519.10	41.4	41.5	39.9	13.25	13.37	13.01	13.17	12.61	11.95
Food and Kindred Products	367.67	356.72	347.73	38.1	36.7	34.6	9.65	9.72	10.05	10.00	9.75	9.54
Textile Mill Products	449.19	454.39	433.93	46.5	46.7	42.5	9.66	9.73	10.21	10.27	10.17	9.38
Apparel and Other Textile Products	356.82	369.10	333.95	37.6	39.1	36.9	9.49	9.44	9.05	9.00	8.32	8.08
Paper and Allied Products	834.62	865.36	795.93	43.2	44.4	42.7	19.32	19.49	18.64	18.84	18.22	17.03
Leather and Leather Products	358.97	359.39	327.02	40.7	40.2	38.7	8.82	8.94	8.45	8.71	8.54	8.30
Other Nondurable Goods	448.89	444.28	428.29	39.0	38.7	38.9	11.51	11.48	11.01	11.20	10.88	10.62
PORTLAND MSA												
Manufacturing	408.10	411.00	427.14	37.1	37.5	37.7	11.00	10.96	11.33	11.22	11.02	10.78
LEWISTON-AUBURN MSA												
Manufacturing	459.62	454.41	421.61	42.4	40.5	39.7	10.84	11.22	10.62	11.13	10.11	9.76

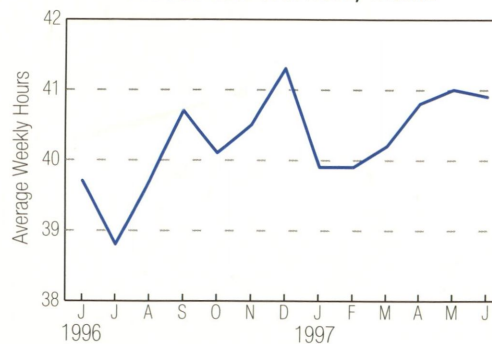
¹ Hours worked and earnings data are computed based on payroll figures for the week including the 12th of the month for manufacturing production workers. Average hourly earnings are calculated on a gross basis, and include such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differential, as well as changes in basic hourly and incentive rates of pay. Average weekly earnings are the product of weekly hours worked and hourly earnings.

Source: See page 2.

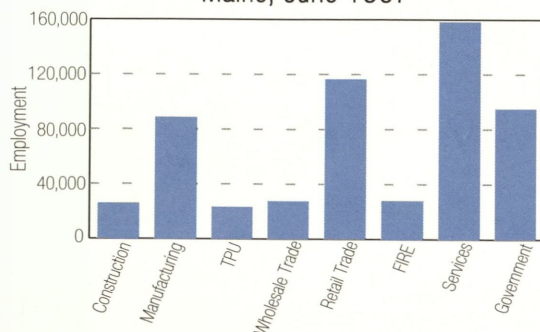
Nonfarm Employment by Sector
January 1983 - June 1997, Maine¹



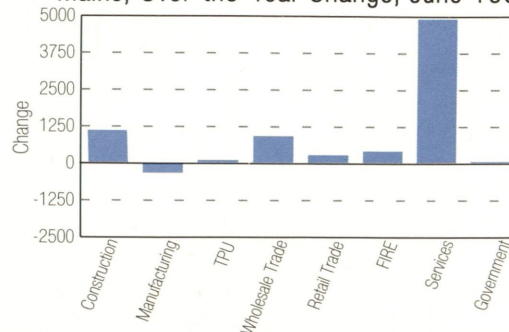
Hours Worked by Manufacturing
Production Workers, Maine²



Nonfarm Employment by Industry Division
Maine, June 1997²



Nonfarm Employment by Industry Division
Maine, Over-the-Year Change, June 1997²



¹ Seasonally Adjusted. ² Not Seasonally Adjusted.



(continued from page 1)

Youth Enrolled in School

In October 1996, a total of 17.4 million youth aged 16 to 24 were either enrolled in college (9.0 million) or high school and below (8.4 million). Nearly 85 percent of the college students were enrolled full time, just over half of whom participated in the labor force. In contrast, nearly 90 percent of the part-time college students participated in the labor force. The unemployment rate for full-time college students was 7.4 percent, somewhat higher than the 4.1-percent rate for part-time college students.

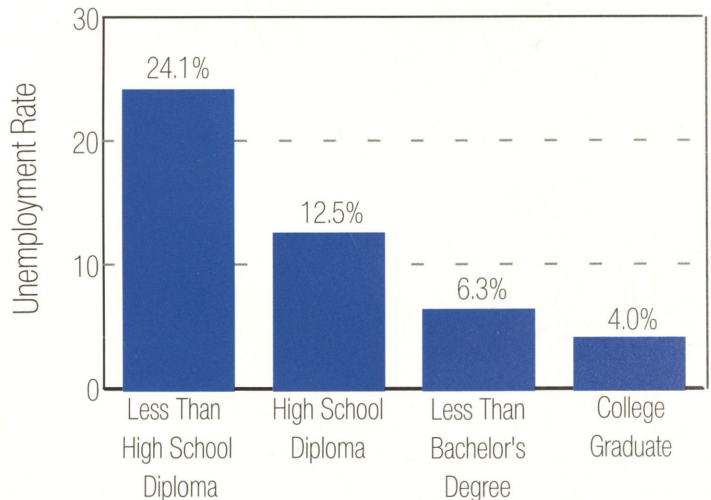
Among high school students, 41.4 percent were engaged in some labor force activity in October, and their unemployment rate was 15.6 percent. Unemployment rates for black (33.5 percent) and Hispanic (21.3 percent) high school students continued to be higher than for whites (12.8 percent).

Out-of-School Youth

A total of 15.1 million youth aged 16 to 24 were not enrolled in school in October 1996, and slightly more than 80 percent of them were in the labor force. Among those not enrolled in school, men were more likely than women to be in the labor force. Blacks and Hispanics had lower labor force participation rates and higher unemployment rates than whites.

Higher levels of education generally correspond to lower unemployment rates. Both men and women who had graduated from college had the lowest rates—5.2 and 2.9 percent, respectively. In contrast, those with less than a high school diploma experienced the highest unemployment rates—21.7 percent for men and 28.7 percent for women.

Unemployment Rates for Persons 16 to 24 Years Old Not Enrolled in School, October 1996, U.S.



Source: *College Enrollment and Work Activity of 1996 High School Graduates*, USDL 97-240, U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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